

BSI-010US4

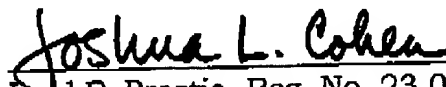
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REMARKS

Claims 1-53 were originally pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 1-19, 21, 42, and 50-53 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof; claims 20, 30-32, 34-36, 38-40, and 43 are amended; and claims 54-62 are added. The claims now pending in this application include claims 20, 22-41, 43-49, and 54-62.

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures:

Abstract

Version with markings to show changes made

Dated: March 1, 2002

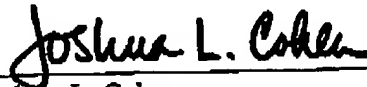
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE
IN THE TITLE

BIFURCATED ENDOLUMINAL PROSTHESIS
ENDOLUMINAL STENT

CLAIMS:

What is Claimed:

Claims 1-19 have been cancelled.

1 20. (Amended) A stent as recited in claim 1954 in
2 combination with one or more additional stent segments.

Claim 21 has been cancelled.

1 30. (Amended) At A stent as recited in claim 29, wherein
2 said mating frustoconical stent segments are adapted to be separately
3 placed in a bifurcated artery and then, by expansion of one of said
4 frustoconical stent segments, secured to one another.

1 31. (Amended) An endoluminal stent as claimed in
2 claim 1954 wherein said hoops are formed of a single continuous
3 wire.

1 32. (Amended) An endoluminal stent as claimed in
2 claim 1954 wherein said securing means is a suture.

1 34. (Amended) An endoluminal stent as claimed in
2 claim 1954 wherein said securing means is a ring.

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1 35. (Amended) An endoluminal stent as claimed in
2 claim ~~19-54~~ wherein said securing means is a staple.

1 36. (Amended) An endoluminal stent as claimed in
2 claim ~~19-54~~ wherein said securing means is wire twisted into loop.

1 38. (Amended) An endoluminal stent as claimed in
2 claim ~~19-54~~ wherein said securing means is bead of thermoplastic
3 material.

1 39. (Amended) An endoluminal stent as claimed in
2 claim ~~19-54~~ wherein ~~the plane of the circumference at each~~
3 longitudinal end of the stent is square to the longitudinal axis of the
4 stent.

1 40. (Amended) An endoluminal stent as claimed in
2 claim ~~19-54~~ wherein said stent is at least partially covered in fabric.

Claim 42 has been cancelled.

1 43. (Amended) An endoluminal stent as claimed in
2 claim 54 further comprising a radiopaque marker disposed on at least
3 one end of the stent.

Claims 50-53 have been cancelled.

Claims 54-62 have been added.

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ABSTRACT:

~~The invention comprises:~~

~~An introducer for delivering into the vasculature a straight or bifurcated stent or prosthesis; a method for delivering into the vasculature a straight or bifurcated stent or prosthesis; a method of treating and angiological disease using a bifurcated stent; an endoluminal stent having perpendicular hoop members, each hoop member formed of wire in a sinuous configuration, at least some of juxtaposed apices in neighboring hoops being secured to one another, such stents also forming axially aligned segments in straight stents, and segments of bifurcated stents in particular embodiments. Certain embodiments of such stents also include barbs, fabric covering and radiopaque markers.~~

A stent is provided comprising a plurality of hoops aligned along a common axis, wherein each of the hoops is oriented in a plane substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the stent. Each of the hoops includes a plurality of elongate elements joined to one another and forming apices that point in a direction along the axis of the stent. The stent also comprises means for securing an apex of one hoop to a juxtaposed apex of a neighboring hoop.